CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE
Digest

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PUBLISHER
FILM BLDG.
277 Victoria St.
TORONTO

THIRTY-THIRD YEAR OF PUBLICATION 1915-48

Vol. 40, No. 16 TORONTO, CANADA August 14th, 1948

Payments At The Source

ALL who have had experience with Tax Deductions are familiar with the regulations which require the deduction of certain taxes at the source. The recent U.S. Judicial Decision, which was handed down by Judge Vincent L. Leibell, in the case of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (Ascap) and which was won by the Independent Theatre Owners of America, recalls to mind several editorials which were published in the Canadian Moving Picture Digest, years ago, in connection with Performing Rights Licenses in Canada.

It was difficult for your editor to understand the difference between the story material and the music, both which made the picture, and neither which could be deleted from a picture in its exhibition. The exhibitors were not asked to pay a license fee for the story, this was restricted to the music, and certainly it did not make sense when you consider that the producer and distributor copyrighted the picture as their exclusive property, and licensed the exhibition of these properties to the public.

The Performing Rights officials argued that it was easier to collect a License Fee for exhibition from the exhibitors than from the producers. But why it should have been easier, we fail to understand, since with the exhibitors, the Performing Rights Society, or Ascap, in the United States, was obliged to deal with thousands of theatres, whereas it would only be necessary to deal with a few producers.

Ascap has a good argument in that it is less complicated to deal with a representative organization than with many composers and holders of music copyrights singly and Ascap has an argument when it claims that payments through License Fees are less than they would be in dealing with individual Copyright owners.

However, Ascap collected its License Fees with Government knowledge, and in Canada and in England Performing Rights collected license fees, also, with Government knowledge and sanction.

Now that the U.S. Judiciary has handed down a Ruling which places Ascap within the orbit of the Sherman Anti-Trust Act or Combines Regulations, and directs Ascap to "cease and desist", the question of the legality of the License Fees, which have been collected, appears to be another $64 question for our Industry.

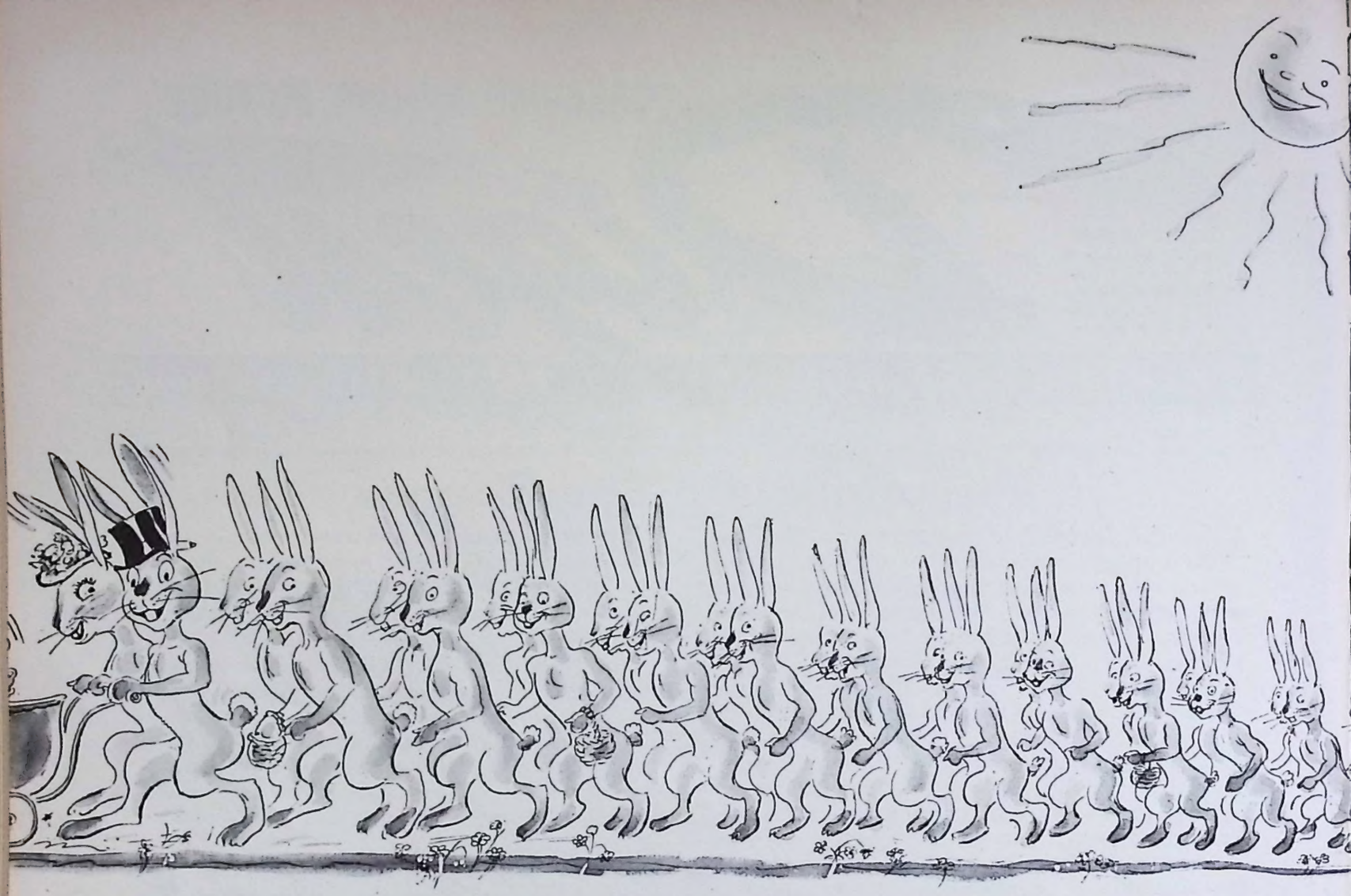
The Independent Theatre Owners of America claim that since the Judge ruled that Ascap's Theatre Performance Fees are illegal, everything which Ascap has done in connection with the levying and collection of License Fees from exhibitors is, also, illegal. Members of the ITOA have been instructed to stop paying fees to Ascap.

Abraham F. Myers, Chief Counsel for Allied States is reported as having said, "Under the ruling, the copyright owners will be compelled to license the public performing rights to the motion picture producers and the latter will convey those rights to exhibitors in film contracts". This is just where The Digest left off years ago on this subject.

Ascap's legal department states that the collection of fees has not been ruled illegal, it is the manner of collecting such fees which has been declared illegal. There is no ruling which intends to deprive the owners of copyrights from receiving payment for performing rights. They further state that owners of copyrights may appoint a Trustee to collect fees for them. The general counsel for the ITOA holds a similar opinion. Under the law Ascap has ninety days in which to present an appeal.

—EDITOR.

PUBLISHED BY
CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST COMPANY LIMITED
277 VICTORIA STREET . TORONTO



And watch your grosses multiply when you play M·G·M's Hit of Hits!

IRVING BERLIN'S
EASTER PARADE

starring

JUDY GARLAND ★ FRED ASTAIRE

PETER LAWFORD · ANN MILLER

COLOR BY *Technicolor*

Screen Play by SIDNEY SHELDON, FRANCES GOODRICH and ALBERT HACKETT • Original Story by FRANCES GOODRICH and ALBERT HACKETT

Lyrics and Music by IRVING BERLIN · Musical Numbers Directed by ROBERT ALTON · Directed by CHARLES WALTERS · Produced by ARTHUR FREED

RAY PRESENTS

WHEN a picture has a run of ten weeks, in a theatre on Yonge Street, Toronto, the new Biltmore, which is in its tenth week of "The Mating of Millie", it is motion picture history. As a matter of fact, a ten weeks' run at any theatre in Canada, for any motion picture, is motion picture history.

"The Mating of Millie" is a Columbia Picture. It was not one of Columbia's Specials, you notice I said, it was not, but who knows its classification now? Had it been a Columbia Special, the new Biltmore would not have had it for its first run, Toronto, engagement.

"The Mating of Millie" was another example of those dear, enchanting "Sleepers" in motion picture production, and some of our wise showmen, in Canada, were asleep to its awakening charms. The Biltmore got a break, for it not only stayed ten weeks, but it helped to solve somewhat of a picture problem for a beautiful new theatre, in a most competitive downtown first-run zone.

There are a few people going around and looking, O so wise, nodding their heads in the affirmative and saying, "I told you so", but not one of them "told you so", except Harvey Harnick, general manager of Columbia Pictures in Canada. Harvey has a nose for smelling out where a picture will do good business; his "smeller" has been trained by Louis Rosenfeld, President of Columbia Pictures of Canada, and when Louis trains a "smeller", that organ smells Showmanship.

"THE Mating of Millie" is as light as a feather-duster, that is why it dusted off a ten weeks' run and gave the other Columbia picture, "The Fuller Brush Man", with Red Skelton, a run in dusting off box office receipts, for "The Fuller Brush Man" chalked up a six weeks' run at Famous Players' key downtown theatre, Shea's, Toronto.

Now, what has "The Fuller Brush Man" got that Millie hasn't? First, it cost about four times as much to produce, it has a Fuller Brush tie-up, which anyone, interested in brushes, knows about, and, of course, there is Red Skelton, who should be good for some box office dusting of his own.

Both pictures are just nonsense slapstick, built for laughs, they present no problems, no murders, no sexology, just laughs, and how the public wants to laugh, today. Many laughs keep that black hair from turning gray, every laugh keeps that gray hair from falling out.

At Shea's, Fred Trebilcock was smiling all day long, and was unconcerned about the hot spell of weather. I think that the Fuller Brush Company should keep Fred supplied with brushes all the days of his life, and this company should always remember, with affection and appreciation, the contribution which The Screen has made to its company's sales. As for "The Mating of Millie", if you have never seen an exhibitor smile, you should have seen Exhibitor Ben Okun, daily, at the Biltmore. Ben said that when the time came for him to christen a grand daughter, he would call her "Millie". He likes the name.

You may have an idea, that "The Mating of Millie" just happened to catch on at the Biltmore, but this is not so, for this same picture played for seven weeks at Odeon's Garrick Theatre, Winnipeg.

STARS do not always make a picture box office, although I grant they help considerably when the picture helps them, nor do million-dollar productions always make a picture box office. It is the unpredictable and unexpected success of pictures which give this Industry the courage and the faith to invest millions of dollars in picture productions, and which imbue a producer with the idea that he has a picture which may do a crescendo at the box office. It is this Eternal Hope which keeps Exhibitors in Show Business, it is this spark which gives a producer, perhaps, sleepless nights, but which provides the urge to produce a success.

Who is there among us who hates money? Do you, do you, do you? Not any of us, unless it is counterfeit, but who among us shall sit in judgment as to box office values, quality, production value, star value, best sellers and all the other tangible and intangible assets which go into a picture, and which induce the public to lay down its dough at the box office.

Apropos of the importance of dough, there is a recent story about Rosalind Russell. You will remember that most of us in the Trade thought that Rosalind would get the Academy Award for her outstanding work in R-K-O's "Mourning Becomes Electra". What happened is now past history, for Loretta Young received the coveted Oscar for her work in "The Farmer's Daughter". After a press review of "The Velvet Touch", Rosalind Russell's friends told her that this year she will surely win the Academy Award.

"No, no, not that", Rosalind is reported to have said. "I never want to go through such suspense as I did before; all I want from that picture (The Velvet Touch) is a popular reception from the paying public. You see, my own money is in this one". Here's to you, Rosalind, may you be riding on "Velvet", even if the Income Tax shears off a yard, or two.

PETER RATHVON, who has been in charge of production at the R-K-O Radio Pictures Studios, following the resignation of Dore Schary, has resigned. It gives one a queer feeling to see big men sever their relationship with a company with which they have been successfully identified. I know that Howard Hughes is brilliant, that he has been successful in many business ventures, that he has always been able to hold his own against, what we call, Power and Money, that he is a bit of a Lone Wolf, but if I know anything about our Industry, the Biggest men in it require the Showmanship of brains, to produce, to distribute, to publicize, to exhibit, and there are no Lone Wolves in our business who do not get their strength from the pack. A man does not talk to himself unless he is "a nut." Most brilliant people are "nuts", but they have to crack open, from their own combustion, or be cracked open to commercialize the kernel of their thought.

R-K-O-Radio has a honey of a picture, a Leo McCarey production, "Good Sam", soon to be released. I caught a sneak preview at the Nortown, Toronto. The picture stars Gary Cooper, and the title of it has no relationship to "Uncle Sam". It is all about a man who only sees the good in everyone, man, woman, or beast. He gets taken for so many rides, that his backside becomes calloused, he is cleaned so many times that he is whiter than snow.

Just about the time that his Golden Rule doctrine of living looks to Good Sam like a hunk of lead, glory, Hallelujah, if the lead does not turn out to be 22 carat gold, just like Johnny Cohn's premium dinner-set, and Good Sam rises, resplendent, from the Slough of Despondency.

(Continued on Page 6)

Toronto and District

By BILL PRESS

PRESIDENT J. J. Fitzgibbons of Famous Players Canadian Corp. and Paul L. Nathanson, the latter of Montreal, engaged in earnest conversation at Ottawa. It happened to be at the time of the National Liberal Convention but it was not at this rally that the two trade executives were holding what appeared to be a private conference.

Incidentally, one of the chief organizers of the Liberal convention was Allan G. McLean, formerly of the National Film Board and a brother of Ross McLean, the present NFB commissioner.

The NFB camera crews had the Coliseum, where the convention was staged for three days, looking like a moving picture studio with arc lamps strung on the decorated rafters above the main floor and a huge light focussed on the speaker's platform for the shooting of films.

* * *

At Windsor, Ont., the Tivoli Theatre is continuing to have success with its Famous Players Movie Club despite the summer vacation period. The Saturday show starts at 12 noon, the club program being followed by a double bill. * *

The dollar-economy program initiated by Finance Minister D. C. Abbott on Nov. 18th in a move to correct the adverse trade balance with the U.S. shows signs of collapsing in the recent decision to remove the luxury tax from a wide range of items, some of which are used in the theatre business.

The 25 per cent levy was removed from moving projectors, oil burners, musical instruments and refrigerating units. The 25 per cent tax was reduced to 10 per cent on record players, radios and tubes, cameras and photographic films and some other lines.

Restrictions on the importation of various articles from the United States have been continued. The question has been raised, however, as to how much longer the ban on imports may be effective. * * *

The Montcalm Theatre in Hull, Que., opened last year by Louis Bisson, is now offering premiums every week night, the giveaways being the attractive dishes handled by Angelo Stevens.

* * *

Herb Ochs' Drive-In Theatre at Peterborough had its gala opening Saturday night, July 31st, the location being on the Lakefield Road, five miles from the centre of the Liftlock City. The site of 11 acres is covered with crushed stone to get away from any mud difficulty and there is the usual refreshment bar.

In opening its engagement of "The Mating of Millie", the Palace Theatre, Hamilton, capitalized on the fact that the picture had played nine weeks at the Biltmore Theatre, Toronto, the advertising making a play on the record run here. * * *

There was a ray of hope, in connection with a Hydro conference in Toronto on July 30th, that the promised dim-out for the coming fall and winter in Ontario would be more moderate although longer in enforcement.

While the restrictions would be enforced from mid-September to April, there was the intimation that arrangements would be made to provide for a degree of illumination for advertising displays and show windows — providing consumers managed to reduce overall consumption by other lighting economies.

At the same time, the prediction was made that the shortage situation would probably be even worse than last winter. But it is expected there will be no power restrictions in the neighboring Province of Quebec which gets its electricity from the same or similar sources. * * *

The Century Theatre, Brantford, brought back a classic pair for a three-day engagement consisting of "Hell's Angels" and "Sky Devils", both produced by Howard Hughes, who is now the headman at R-K-O-Radio studios.

* * *

Where Glenn Ireton is, there you must find Joe Laflamme and his trained moose from Temagami. Laflamme, who appeared in a Warner Bros. short when Ireton was Canadian publicity manager for that distributing company, has turned up in Montreal where he has been listed for a coming picture of Canadian International Screen Productions Limited with which Ireton is now associated. * * *

The Canadian Drive-In near St. Catharines, Ont., has added public dancing as one of its extra attractions. Patrons may dance on the stage prior to the film show on nights when vaudeville is not presented. * * *

Olsen and Johnson, famed comedians, are being featured at the Miss Canada Beauty Pageant which is scheduled to be held August 20th at Hamilton, under the auspices of the Lions Club. Advance notices say that the guest of honor will be Barbara Jo Walker, the "Miss America of 1947", but there is no mention of Toronto's Margaret Marshall, who won the "Miss Canada" title there last year when she was a cashier at the Victoria Theatre.

The Canadian Moving Picture Digest

Entered as Second Class Matter

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Published by
CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST COMPANY, LIMITED
277 Victoria Street - Toronto
Telephone: WAverley 4928
Cable: Raydigest
Established 1915. Publication weekly.
Subscription: $5.00 yearly

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BILL PRESS.....Toronto, Ont.
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The Skyway Drive-In at Windsor is featuring free pony rides for the children each evening from 7 p.m. until the screen performance gets under way at dusk.

* * *

The Ontario License Board has shut down on vaudeville performances in cocktail and dining lounges, generally speaking. A piano will be permitted, but no stage show, in lounges seating less than 100 persons while an instrumental trio will be allowed in larger places. The board's new policy should help the theatres.

* * *

The Lyric Theatre, Brantford, put on a horror double-bill for one performance only as its offering for a Sunday midnight show. The two pictures were "Scared to Death" and "Tower of Terror".

* * *

The Sunset Drive - In Theatre, near Brantford, Ont., has inaugurated open-air dances on a specially constructed floor where patrons may trip the light fantastic before taking in the evening's film show. Many of the drive-in theatres had Sunday midnight shows in conjunction with Civic Holiday. * * *

Walter Robertson, 22, who confessed to holding up Miss Esther Newsom, cashier of the Imperial Theatre, Toronto, and robbing her of $136, and was involved in an attempted armed robbery at a subpost office, was sentenced to two years in Kingston Penitentiary.

* * *

A week of operatic film features has been booked into the Royal Alexandra Theatre, Toronto, following the extended run of "Sins of the Fathers". The opera films, which will be changed each day, include "Pagliacci", "La Tosca", "Othello", "Rigoletto" and "The Barber of Seville". It makes an imposing list. * * *

Despite the hot weather, Steve McManus's movie club at the Odeon Theatre, Kingston, is still going strong although a number of other clubs in Ontario have suspended for the summer.

Televised Events Regular Policy At New York Paramount Theatre

The Paramount Theatre on Times Square is the world's first motion picture theatre to incorporate full-screen theatre television as a regular entertainment feature.

Several "television firsts" have been scored by the Paramount Theatre while inaugurating this new policy. A pickup by Paramount's own mobile camera crew of the Olympics boxing elimination bouts at the Navy Y.M.C.A. in Brooklyn on April 14th — micro-waved to the Paramount Theatre, film-recorded and presented on the theatre's 20' x 24' screen — marked the first time that a televised event was offered as a regular program feature in a motion picture theatre.

On April 27th, an important televised news event — a speech by Gen. Omar Bradley before a Waldorf-Astoria dinner of the National Publishers' Assn. — was presented as a surprise feature to the Paramount Theatre's patrons.

Long Distance Showing

On June 24th, occurred the first news event theatre showing of an event brought from a distant city by coaxial cable. The presidential nomination acceptance speech by Governor Thomas E. Dewey before the Republican National Convention in Philadelphia was taken from the coaxial cables linking the two cities, film-recorded and presented at once to patrons of the Paramount Theatre on Times Square.

On June 25th, Paramount chalked up the first full-screen television presentation of a world championship title bout before a theatre audience which had paid a regular admission charge. The event was the Louis-Walcott heavyweight battle at Yankee Stadium and the showing came as a complete surprise to the majority of the theatre's audience as no public or marquee announcement was made until a half hour before the bout. Regular evening admission prices were not advanced.

Boxing Fights Presented

Pursuing its now well-established policy of presenting major televised events to its audiences, the Paramount Theatre, on July 12th, offered its evening patrons a 20-minute portion of Senator Alben Barkley's keynote address to the Democratic National Convention in Philadelphia.

And followed it a few moments later with the exciting light-weight title bout between Beau Jack and Ike Williams, direct from Shibe Park, Philadelphia.

The reaction of the Paramount Theatre audience was the same as observed during the Louis-Walcott fight. The theatre crowd caught the ringside fever quickly and began to act as though actually seated in Shibe Park — applauding, yelling advice, and exhorting Referee Daggert to halt the brutal battering of Beau Jack in the fateful sixth round.

Video Better Than Ringside

As in the presentation of previous boxing bouts and convention speeches, Paramount risked no distortion through taking events off the air but piped the events to the theatre via coaxial cable. As a result, the televised events presented at the theatre have been rated by the press as of excellent newsreel quality. At the fights, particularly, Paramount Theatre patrons applauded enthusiastically. Actually, according to Paramount officials, seeing the fight in the theatre has distinct advantages over witnessing the event in an outdoor park. Projection of the fighters on a 20' x 24' theatre screen affords a larger-than-life view so that not a single feint or subtle grimace is missed. In fact, to a person seated about 150 feet from the theatre screen, the maximum distance in the Paramount Theatre, the fighters appear to be as large as they do to the man in a seat 30 to 40 feet from the ring.

How Paramount System Works

In the Paramount intermediate film system of presenting televised events, images are recorded on 35mm. film off the face of a cathode-ray receiving tube by a special camera. The film is developed at high speed, dried practically instantaneously and fed directly to the theatre's standard 35mm. projectors to be flashed on the full theatre screen. From the moment an image is received until the images hit the screen, there is a time lag of approximately 60 seconds. While this speed makes it possible to prevent televised events to theatre audiences virtually as they occur, the recording feature is of even greater significance for it permits the theatre management to edit events as good taste and necessity may require, to store the record for use at a time a few minutes or hours later when its presentation will not interfere with the regularly scheduled program. This Paramount system enables theatre owners to turn television to profitable account, to weigh the entertainment value of televised events, and to present them in orderly fashion as additional entertainment features.

Sound Equipment Executive Passes After Brief Illness

E. J. BYRNE

Following a brief illness, E. J. Byrne, secretary and assistant treasurer, Dominion Sound Equipments Limited, died in the Neurological Institute, Royal Victoria Hospital, Saturday evening, July 31st, in his 48th year.

Mr. Byrne was born in Manlius, N.Y., in 1901 and came to Canada in 1904. He joined the Northern Electric Company in 1920 and served in the accounting and auditing departments, in Montreal and Winnipeg, for several years. He was transferred to Dominion Sound as accountant and office manager in Montreal when the latter company was formed in 1935.

During 1918-19 Mr. Byrne served with the C.E.F., Siberian forces, and was in the Victoria Rifles of Canada, Reserve Army, from 1940 to 1946. He was a member of the Canadian Legion, the Canadian Credit Institute and the National Office Management Association.

Mr. Byrne is survived by his wife, formerly Hazel McKinnon; two children, Norma and Donald; a brother, William, a sister, Mrs. F. Clark — all of Montreal — and another sister, Mrs. Leigh Hill, of Ottawa.

A funeral service was held in the Loyola Chapel, Sherbrooke Street west, Wednesday morning, August 4th. Burial was in Cite des Neiges cemetary.

MYERS NEW FOX TORONTO MANAGER

Arthur Silverstone, Canadian General Manager of 20th Century-Fox, has appointed Peter S. Myers as Toronto branch manager succeeding Harry Bailey, who has tendered his resignation.

Peter S. Myers, Toronto branch manager of Eagle-Lion Films of Canada and Monogram Films of Canada, has resigned from these companies to become Toronto branch manager of 20th Century-Fox Corporation, effective August 23rd.

Peter, 32, has been in the Motion Picture Industry since 1935, when he joined United Artists as assistant booker. He was appointed salesman for that company in 1938 and remained there until 1941. Early in that year he joined the Royal Canadian Air Force and remained in service until 1946. On his discharge he joined Warner Bros., as salesman, working out of the Toronto branch. In 1947 he joined the staff of Eagle-Lion as Toronto branch manager, a position he held until his recent appointment.

RAY PRESENTS

(Continued from Page 3)

All his family, including wife, the kids, all the relatives, neighbors, even his boss cheer his promotion to vice-president, and the Christmas bonus and good cheer which he receives is not a bedtime story.

LOEW'S, Toronto, held over "Mr. Blandings Builds His Dream House", which did a terrific business, again during Toronto's hot spell of weather. It is a Selznick release and Joe Marks, SRO Canadian representative, had occasion to smile, in anticipation of a Canadian-wide success. David Selznick purchased "Mr. Blandings Builds His Dream House" from R-K-O-Radio Pictures. This should have been sufficient to let us know that Mr. Blandings was a winner.

Here is another laugh-getter, all about a couple, who, having been married for fifteen years, and who have two growing daughters, long for a home of their own, in the country, away from the noise, the congestion and the tension of living in an apartment in a big city.

Cary Grant is the husband; he is in the advertising business, which is big business, for it gives him fifteen grand a year. But he would like to be a country gentleman, with acres of his own, where he can shoot, walk, relax and live. His wife (Myrna Loy), may have given him these ideas as she has dreamt of a country home, for years and years. And so The Blandings start out in quest of such a home. Not having any sense of real estate values, but very much in love with each other, and a rural setting for their love, they are sold a house, which is ancient enough to have a history.

THE result, they have to blast with dynamite to excavate, they have to dig into the bowels of the earth to find water, they have to tear down the house and build a new one, which means architect plans, contractors, painters, engineers, plumbers, carpenters. They have their own ideas of what they want, including four bedrooms and four bathrooms; they have ideas of what this house should cost, but who has not when building a home and who has not been almost shocked to death, not by the electric wiring, but by the pyramiding of bills.

Since so many people have had the same ideas about home-building, and so many have gone through the same experiences, particularly the cost of just a little, a very little suggestion to the architect, who has completed his plans, what happens is a barrelful of fun.

You will be surprised at how much of a love-interest there can be in a story which involves a fifteen year married couple.

Blandings' Dream House is wholesome, joyous, hilarious fun; incidentally, it has that touch of what we call "class", without being in the least high-brow.

IT'S A PROBLEM!

J. ARTHUR RANK
Presents
Snowbound
Adapted from
"The Lonely Skier"
★
Produced by:
Audrey Baring
★
Director David MacDonald
★
Contact your local Eagle-Lion Branch for fast play dates
An EAGLE-LION Release

"But they told me at the beauty parlor 'Snowbound' would curl my hair!"

Maritime News

By A. L. FAIRWEATHER

GEORGE A. WALTERS, manager of the Capitol and Prince Theatres at Charlottetown, P.E.I., got himself not only a "Place in the Sun" but his picture in the newspapers as his team won the Maritime Senior Track and Field Championship at Fredericton, during the celebration of the Centennial of that Capital City. Mr. Walter's team which represented the P.E.I. Abeweits Amateur Athletic Club, scored a total of 54 points. High praise was accorded George as he won the javelin, discus and shot put and came third in the hammer throw. Many prominent officials in the Sport World were present, including Hon. J. Hayes Donne whose Governmental Department includes Health and Physical Fitness. The meet was held at College Field. Mr. Walters is noted not only for his athletic prowess but for his fine community spirit.

* * *

To exploit the attraction, "Hollywood Barn Dance", at the Capitol Theatre, Yarmouth, N.S., Ernie Hatfield, manager, had swinging barn doors in the windows with the line "for a barnfull of fun see Ernest Tubb and his Troubadors in Hollywood Barn Dance".

* * *

Both the magazine "Time", and the Montreal "Standard" featured the personal appearance of Mr. Fuller at the showing of "The Fuller Brush Man", at the Community Theatre at Yarmouth, N.S. Sid Wyman, manager of the theatre, and the Franklin-Herschorn Company were delighted with the result of this showing. Mr. Wyman spent a few days in Saint John visiting exchanges and the head office of the company following his return from Camp Utopia, where he was taking the Officers Training Course at the Military Summer Camp there.

* * *

Larry Druxerman of the Selznick Releasing Organization has been in the Maritime Territory and reports great success in dating "Mr. Blandings Builds His Dream House" and "Duel in the Sun", which is now being shown at popular prices.

* * *

Ivan Haley, manager of the Mayfair at Dartmouth, N.S., reports enormous success with the Soap Box Derby Contest of which he was the Committee chairman. The events drew thousands of people on Dartmouth's Natal Day and were sponsored by various merchants. Other cities and towns say they will copy this idea for future celebrations.

* * *

George Fielding, manager at Kentville, N.S., of the Empire Theatre, spent a few days in Saint John recently.

The Maritime film men are appearing in the news recently. A long write-up in the Saint John press described the 16mm. camera owned by the St. John Branch of the N.B. Fish and Game Protective Association, of which Eric Golding, booker of the M-G-M office, is the official photographer. The Branch formerly possessed a 35 mm. camera but the films were not suitable for showings outside of theatres because of projection difficulties, so the 16 mm. equipment was purchased and Eric, who has been chairman of entertainments for several years, was made the official photographer. Now the camera accompanies Eric on all hunting and fishing jaunts and he will give all his attention to recording, for the Club's entertainment, many subjects. Some of these films will be loaned to schools for the students to view. Eric wants to "shoot", with his camera, a large bull moose who roams the woods back of the Golding's summer home near the Nerepis River, but to date Mr. Moose has been camera shy although apparently not afraid of people.

* * *

Maurice Ellman of Alliance Films at Saint John is eagerly looking for his gorilla which will exploit the films, "Congorilla" and "Borneo", shortly to be seen at the Mayfair Theatre.

* * *

Joe Connor, formerly of Saint John, has joined the staff of the Odeon Theatre, the Oxford, at Halifax, N.S. Mr. Connor is a nephew of the late John Connor, former owner of the Savoy Theatre at Glace Bay, N.S. Joe is a talented showcard writer and was on the staffs of the Empire and Gaiety Theatres at Halifax. L. P. Charleton is manager of the Oxford Theatre, Halifax, N.S., whose motto is "The Home of Good Entertainment".

ROYAL SOUND MASTER
SOUND EQUIPMENT
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To Meet the Demands
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« Capital Story »

By WILL McLAUGHLIN

OTTAWA theatre managers celebrated Civic Holiday with extra midnight shows previous to the regular Monday openings. Gordon Beavis, Odeon resident manager at the Centre, entertained the night birds with "Naked City". Manager Henry Marshall gave his late night customers a peak at "The Sainted Sisters", and manager Ray Tubman of the big Capitol Theatre was at home to the sleepless brigade with "Three Daring Daughters". All reported large attendances, mostly composed of Civil Servants who had no other place to go over the long week-end.

* * *

Casey Swedlove, owner and operator of the Linden Theatre in the East-End, no sooner got finished up with his last piece of "give-aways" when he announced a "bigger and better" set of dinnerware. This sort of inducement goes strong with housewives in the neighborhoods.

* * *

Bill Hartnett, chief projectionist at the Regent Theatre and business agent for his local and Bob Gellatly, now with the National Film Board and former crewman at the old Dominion and Russell Theatres and at Loew's and the Keith-Albee Theatres during the heyday of vaudeville, are leaving shortly for Cleveland, Ohio, as representatives of their locals at the forthcoming international convention of stage employees and moving picture operators.

* * *

Bill Cullen, assistant to manager Ray Tubman at the Capitol Theatre, is back at his desk following two weeks vacation. Looking tanned and fit for the strenuous season ahead, Bill reports a grand time with his wife and family at his country home west of the city limits.

* * *

Frank Gallop, manager of the Glebe (Odeon) Theatre, opened the other day with "Children of Paradise". (Les Enfants du Paradis), which created quite a furor when the then French Ambassador to Canada attempted to present the film last year on a Sunday at the Capitol Theatre before an invited audience. Frank expects to do well with the French-made production, due to curiosity created when the film was banned in the province of Quebec and held up by the Ontario Board of Censors.

* * *

The executive committee of the Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario (Ottawa and district branch) is making preparations to call members to the first luncheon-meeting of the new season late in September.

Vancouver News

By JACK DROY

THE trade here believe the key reason for the current drop in grosses in B.C. is high admission prices. Then again, some exhibitors think the box office slump is due to the hot weather seasonal dip, plus a lack of strong attractions. You can take your choice here and always come up with different answers. As an example of the let-down in first run business, "Homecoming" at the Capitol and "The Pirate" at the Orpheum played only one week. Formerly pictures of this calibre went at least two to three weeks. One thing appears certain, many people who formerly attended movies three times weekly have cut attendance to once and twice a week, and there seems little doubt, a check up shows, that it is largely a matter of economics. But with the unbearable taxes and higher film rentals, showmen here can see no way to reduce admission prices as much as they would like to in order to help out the low income groups.

* * *

Roy McLeod, manager of the Vogue, has his female staffers decked out in natty new summer uniforms. Yellow blouses, green pants, and pink bows, make them the smartest looking girls in this town.

* * *

Who is the prettiest girl in Vancouver? B.C. Pacific National Exhibition and the Famous Players circuit don't know but they intend to find out. Each F-P theatre in B.C. will select a winner and the girls will travel to Vancouver to appear in the finals. Winner will be designated Miss PNE of 1948 and will appear with Jimmy Durante in the stage show at the fair. Finals and eliminations will be held at the Orpheum Theatre, Vancouver.

* * *

Long delayed because of a shortage of materials, the theatre at Lake Cowichan, near Duncan on Vancouver Island, is now progressing rapidly. The owners, Proteau and Whittingham of Youbou, now have their own saw mill to cut the lumber. Theatre will seat 375.

* * *

Vancouver business interests are starting a court action to eliminate the recently imposed 11 percent levy on rental values, which merchants claim will put many small businessmen out of business, if the tax is allowed to stand. Theatres and amusement interests have, to date, made no decision to fight the tax.

* * *

Maynard McDonald, veteran projectionist at the Odeon Theatre at Victoria, B.C., died in a Victoria hospital last week at the age of 66.

Visitors to Vancouver on their way to Banff and the Canadian Rockies where they will make "Canadian Pacific" for 20th Century-Fox release, this week, were Randolph Scott, who will head the cast, Nat Holt, producer, and Edwin Martin, director. The picture will dramatize the conquest of the Rockies by the CPR. Fraser Valley shots will be taken in British Columbia. The film will be made in color the producer said.

* * *

Martin Cave, manager of the Dominion, Victoria, and Sheila BeJay, manageress of the Rio, Victoria, are vacationing here and report that business is away off in the Capital City.

* * *

The theatre at Premier, B.C., a mining community in Northern B.C., has closed down as the miners requested a big hike in pay which the mining company refused, which gives the province another ghost town. Wells, B.C., a mining town may follow suit, it's said.

The tourist traffic, which was badly affected by flood conditions, appears now to be up and may possibly reach last season's high level, which is good news for show business.

* * *

Alfred Wilkerson, old time exhibitor of Merritt and Kamloops and well-known in B.C. show circles, died at Nelson, B.C., recently, at the age of 73. Harry Haack, owner of the theatre at Lucky Lake, Saskatchewan, also died recently. He was president of the Lucky Lake Board of Trade at the time of his death.

* * *

Helen Simpson, Paramount Cashier, has returned from a two weeks holiday spent in Banff and the Rocky Mountains.

* * *

A new theatre is being erected by local businessmen at Port Moody, in the Fraser Valley, 25 miles from Vancouver. It will be the town's first 35 mm. theatre. Spot was formerly serviced by a 16 mm. circuit which folded because the residents wanted new films.

Trans-Canada Showing

Use This Information As Your Guide On Release Dates

TORONTO

BILTMORE
10th week. "The Mating of Millie" (Col.), with Glenn Ford and Evelyn Keyes.

EGLINTON-TIVOLI
2nd week. "Street With No Name" (Fox), with Mark Stevens and Richard Widmark.

FAIRLAWN-DANFORTH
"The White Unicorn" (E-L), with Margaret Lockwood and Joan Greenwood.

IMPERIAL
"Key Largo" (W-B), with Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall.

LOEW'S
"Easter Parade" (M-G-M), Technicolor, with Judy Garland and Fred Astaire.

NORTOWN-VICTORIA
"Deep Waters" (Fox), with Dana Andrews and Jean Peters.

SHEA'S
"Berlin Express" (R-K-O), with Merle Oberon and Robert Ryan.

UPTOWN
2nd week. "Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein" (U-I), with Bud Abbott and Lou Costello.

MONTREAL

CAPITOL
"Summer Holiday" (M-G-M), Technicolor, with Mickey Rooney and Gloria DeHaven.

IMPERIAL
2nd week. "Tarzan and the Mermaids" (R-K-O), with Johnny Weismuller and Brenda Joyce. Also "Arthur Takes Over" (Fox), with Lois Collier and Jerome Cowan.

LOEW'S
2nd week. "Arch of Triumph" (U-A), with Ingrid Bergman and Charles Boyer.

PALACE
"An Ideal Husband" (Fox), Technicolor, with Paulette Goddard.

PRINCESS
"The Sign of the Ram" (Col.), with Susan Peters and Alexander Knox. Also "Port Said" (Col.), with Gloria Henry and William Bishop.

SAINT JOHN

CAPITOL
"Saigon" (Para.), with Alan Ladd and Veronica Lake.

MAYFAIR
"Deep Valley" (W-B), with Ida Lupino and Dane Clark. Also "The Main Street Kid" (Rep.), with Al Pearce.

STRAND
"Montana Mike" (U-A), with Robert Cummings and Brian Donlevy.

WINNIPEG

CAPITOL
"An Ideal Husband" (Fox), Technicolor, with Paulette Goddard.

GARRICK
2nd week. "Arch of Triumph" (U-A), with Ingrid Bergman and Charles Boyer.

METROPOLITAN
"If You Knew Susie" (R-K-O), with Eddie Cantor and Joan Davis.

ODEON
"The Years Between" (E-L), with Michael Redgrave and Valerie Hobson.

CALGARY

CAPITOL
"The Pirate" (M-G-M), Technicolor, with Judy Garland and Gene Kelly.

GRAND
"The Black Arrow" (Col.), with Louis Hayward and Janet Blair.

PALACE
"How Green Was My Valley" (Fox), with Walter Pidgeon and Maureen O'Hara. Also "Swamp Fire" (Fox), with Dana Andrews and Anne Baxter.

VANCOUVER

CAPITOL
"Homecoming" (M-G-M), with Clark Gable and Lana Turner.

ORPHEUM
"The Pirate" (M-G-M), Technicolor, with Judy Garland and Gene Kelly.

INTERNATIONAL CINEMA
"Tarzan and the Mermaids" (R-K-O), with Johnny Weismuller and Brenda Joyce. Also "If You Knew Susie" (R-K-O), with Eddie Cantor and Joan Davis.

VOGUE
2nd week. "Northwest Stampede" (Int'l), Cinecolor, with Joan Leslie and James Craig.

STRAND
"Mine Own Executioner" (Fox), with Burgess Meredith and Kieron Moore.

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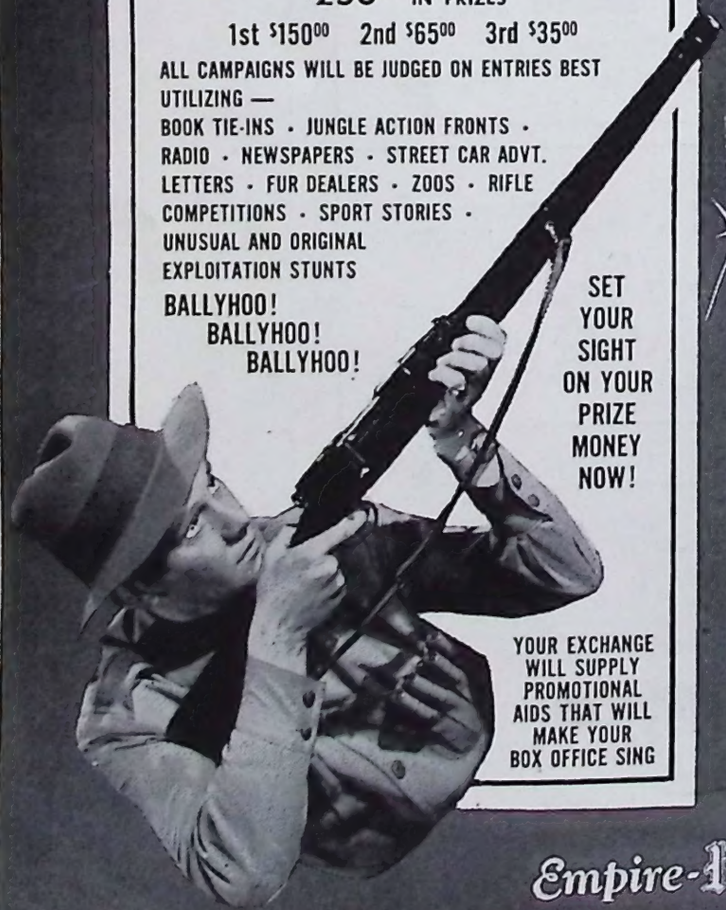

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